accordance with the time characteristic for the setpoint value of the slip.

cancel A3

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to eliminate multiple dependent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 10/12/01

By: [signature]

Richard L. Mayer
Reg. No. 22,490
KENYON & KENYON
One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
Telephone No. (212) 425-7200
Facsimile No. (212)425-5288

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The method as recited in Claim 2 [or 3], where the input torque (E) applied to the torque converter (1) is monitored inside the closing interval; in response to the input torque (E) changing by more than a specifiable tolerance deviation, the slip of the torque converter (1) being ascertained and taken as a basis for a new initial value, which would appear at this input torque (E) in the case of a completely opened torque-converter lockup clutch (20).

6. (Amended) The method as recited in Claim 4 [or 5], where the slip to be used as a new initial value, as a basis for the applied input torque (E) is determined using a stored characteristics map.

7. (Amended) The method as recited in Claim 4 [or 5], where the slip to be used as a new initial value, as a basis for the applied input torque (E) is calculated from the applied input torque (E), taking the performance figure of the torque converter (1) into consideration.

8. (Amended) The method as recited in [one of Claims 1 through 7] Claim 1, where, in order to adjust the slip, a controlled parameter is provided for setting a clamping pressure for the torque converter.

9. (Amended) The method as recited in [one of Claims 1 through 8] Claim 1, where the time characteristic of the slip is monitored for a decline, in order to detect the start of power transmission in the torque-converter lockup clutch (20).

13. (Amended) The control device (24) as recited in Claim 11 [or 12], whose control unit (26) is connected to date storage unit (36), in which a time characteristic for the setpoint value (sw) of the slip is stored, a slip existing at the beginning of a closing interval as an initial value being converted into a target value within the closing interval, in accordance with the time characteristic for the setpoint value of the slip.